

RE: Docket # 00N-1396 and #00D-1598

FEB 06 2001

To the Commissioner,

*What's it gonna take to
smarten up the FDA (+ the USDA)*

I am extremely concerned that the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has proposed regulations that still fail to require labels or safety tests on genetically engineered (GE) food. Labels on GE foods are required in Japan, Russia, and throughout Europe, yet your new proposal continues to deny Americans the right to know what is in our food.

FDA's "voluntary labeling" guidelines will leave thousands of unlabeled GE foods on our supermarket shelves. Furthermore, the agency's proposed notification rule fails to require any safety testing. FDA appears to be playing politics with our food, disregarding science-based precautions that other countries have implemented. I urge you to reconsider this proposal and insure that GE foods are subject to pre-market testing and labeling. Americans deserve the same protections as the rest of the world.

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